DC
SHAZAM
WITH ONE MAGIC WORD...
20c
SHAZAM!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 2 APR. 30688
THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL

SHAZAM!
IS THE MAGIC WORD FOR THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL
HE RETURNS... THE INSANE VILLAIN FROM A DISTANT PLANET WITH THE BODY OF A LOWLY WORM--THE CONSCIENCE OF A HITLER--AND THE BRAIN OF A GENIUS...
STORY BY DENNY O'NEIL
ART BY C. C. BECK
EDITING BY JULIUS SCHWARTZ
THAT'S ME!
AND WHEN I'M FINISHED WITH THE BIG RED CHEESE (AS MY OLD PAL SIVANA CALLS HIM) HE'LL LOOK LIKE A BIG RED SWISS CHEESE!
HOLY MOLEY!
ALL THE POWERS OF SIX GREAT GODS AND HEROES HAVE BEEN GATHERED TOGETHER AND PLACED IN THE HANDS OF BOY BROADCASTER BILLY BATSON! WHEN HE PRONOUNCES THE NAME OF THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WIZARD, SHAZAM, HE BECOMES, IN A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHTNING, CAPTAIN MARVEL!! THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL! THEN, WHEN EVIL IS DEFEATED, CAPT. MARVEL REPEATS THE WORD AND CHANGES BACK TO BILLY. SO AMAZING AND SUDDEN IS THE CHANGE THAT MOST PEOPLE NEVER REALIZE WHAT HAS HAPPENED!
YES, THE SLITHERING FIEND, MR. MIND, EMERGES FROM A LONG RETIREMENT TO PRESENT THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL WITH THE HASSLE OF HIS LIFE AS HE BATTLES--
"THE ASTONISHING ARCH ENEMY"
SOLOMON-WISDOM
HERCULES-STRENGTH
ATLAS-STAMINA
ZEUS-POWER
ACHILLES-COURAGE
MERCURY-SPEED
5-1414
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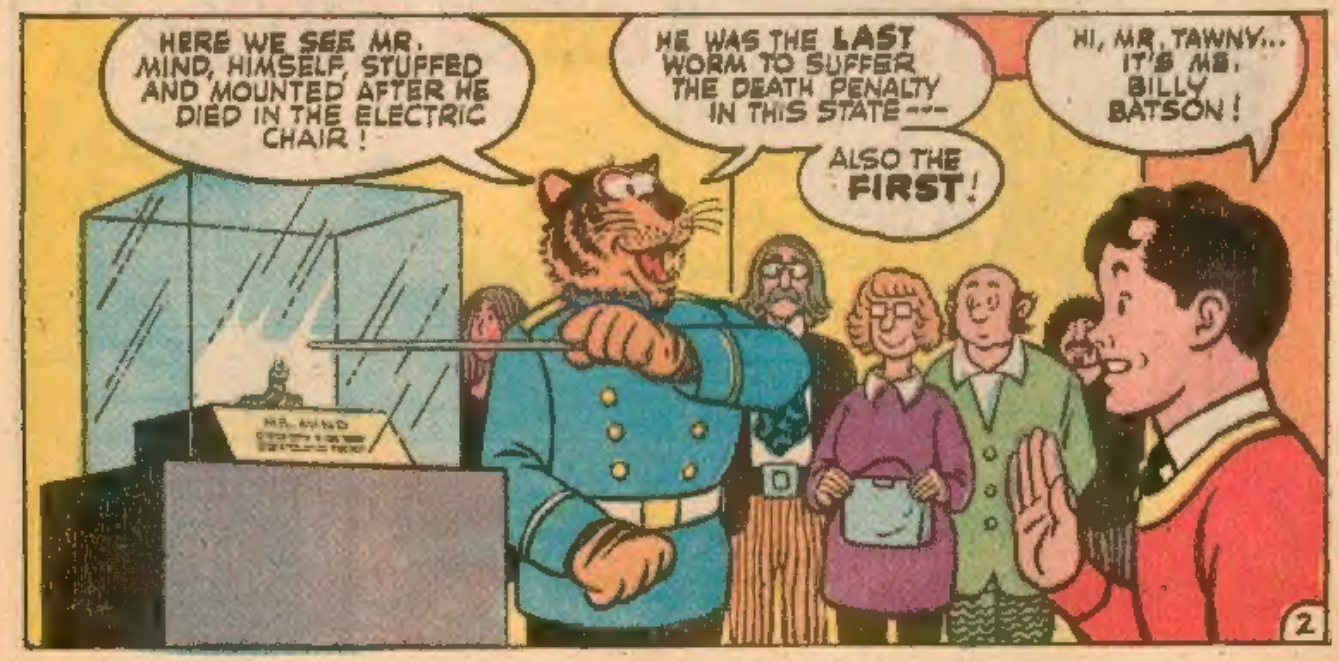
MID-DAY IN A CITY PARK...
GOSH, THE WORLD SURE HAS CHANGED WHILE I WAS IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION! *
NEW POLITICS ...NEW CLOTHING ...NEW ATTITUDES ...EVEN NEW SLANG!

* NOTE: AS EXPLAINED IN ISSUE #1 OF **SHAZAM!**

I THINK I'LL GO SEE MY OLD FRIEND TAWKY TAWNY, THE TALKING TIGER... HE'S FROM THE PAST, LIKE ME!
I HEAR HE GOT HIS JOB BACK AS GUIDE AT THE MUSEUM!

INDEED, MR. TAWNY IS HARD AT WORK...
THIS EXHIBIT DEPICTS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PERFIDIOUS MISTER MIND, LEADER OF THE MONSTER SOCIETY OF EVIL, WHICH INCLUDED MANY VILLAINS OF EARTH AND OTHER WORLDS!
SOME PEOPLE HAVE FOUND IT ODD THAT A WORM COULD BE A CRIMINAL--
NO MORE ODD THAN THAT A TALKING TIGER CAN BE A MUSEUM GUIDE, EH, MARTHA? HEH! HEH!


HERE WE SEE MR. MIND, HIMSELF, STUFFED AND MOUNTED AFTER HE DIED IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!
HE WAS THE LAST WORM TO SUFFER THE DEATH PENALTY IN THIS STATE---
ALSO THE FIRST!
HI, MR. TAWNY... IT'S ME, BILLY BATSON!
2

BUT BEFORE THE FELINE GUIDE CAN REPLY...
HOLY MOLEY! THE WHOLE BUILDING'S SHAKING! IF THE ROOF FALLS, HUNDREDS COULD BE CRUSHED!
I'D BETTER CHANGE TO CAPTAIN MARVEL!
SHAZAM!
CRACK OF LIGHTNING BOOMS IN ANSWER TO THE MYSTIC WORD...
BOOOM
NO NEED TO HURRY, FOLKS--NO CAUSE FOR PANIC!
I'LL KEEP THE PLACE OFF YOUR HEADS TILL YOU'RE OUTSIDE!
AHHH... CAPTAIN MARVEL! YOU'RE STILL SPLENDID IN ACTION!
EVERYONE'S CLEAR! I MIGHT AS WELL JOIN THEM!
THEN, THE INSTANT THE MIGHTY MORTAL LEAVES, THE MUSEUM COLLAPSES LIKE A BALLOON IN A FURNACE...
KAWHOOOMP
THIS IS MORE THAN PASSING STRANGE! JUST LAST WEEK THE MUSEUM WAS INSPECTED AND FOUND TO BE IN PERFECT CONDITION!
TREACHEROUS COINCIDENCE, EH?
I'M AFRAID IT WASN'T A COINCIDENCE, MR. TAWNY. I'LL MAKE SURE!
LISTEN TO THAT GAB! MR. TAWNY MUST BE ONE OF THOSE PRINCETON TIGERS!

FIRST I'LL UNCOVER A CERTAIN DISPLAY CASE...
I'VE FOUND IT!

--AND AS I FEARED... MR. MIND'S GLASSES AND VOICE AMPLIFIER ARE GONE!
BUT HE'S STILL THERE!
NO! THIS STUFFED WORM IS A FAKE! MEANING THE WORLD'S WICKEDEST WORM IS ALIVE!

AND, IN A BURROW FAR, FAR BENEATH THE GROUND...
I SUPPOSE CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS DEDUCED THAT I GOT AN ARMY OF WORMS AND INSECTS TO UNDERMINE THE MUSEUM BUILDING'S FOUNDATIONS!
NO MATTER... I DID WHAT I PLANNED TO DO-- RECOVER MY GLASSES!

IT WAS NECESSARY... IT'S SIMPLY IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND FRAMES IN MY SIZE!
NOW, TO GET ON WITH MY REVENGE! FIRST, I'LL DESTROY THE WESTERN HALF OF THE COUNTRY!
SECOND-- HEE HEE-- I'LL DESTROY THE EASTERN HALF!

AT THAT MOMENT...
MAYBE I CAN PICK UP MR. MIND'S TRAIL HERE AT THIS TRAVELING CIRCUS!
MR. TAWNY SAID ONE OF THE MONSTERS JOINED IT AFTER THE MONSTER SOCIETY OF EVIL WAS DISBANDED...
CIRCUS

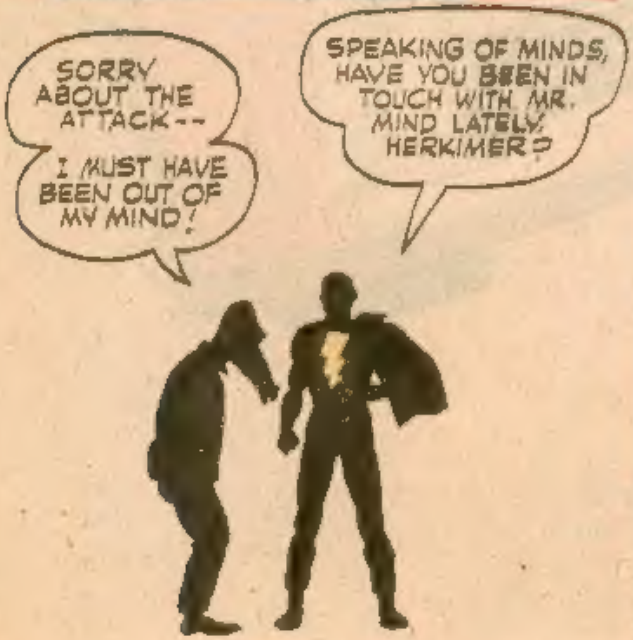
THERE'S HIS PICTURE! I'LL CALL HIM!
SEE
OH, HERKIMER!
CONTINUED ON 2nd PAGE FOLLOWING

CAPTAIN MARVEL, MY OLD ENEMY!
I'LL BASH YOU TO BUTTER
GRRRRR
BASH AWAY! NO HARM IN TRYING!

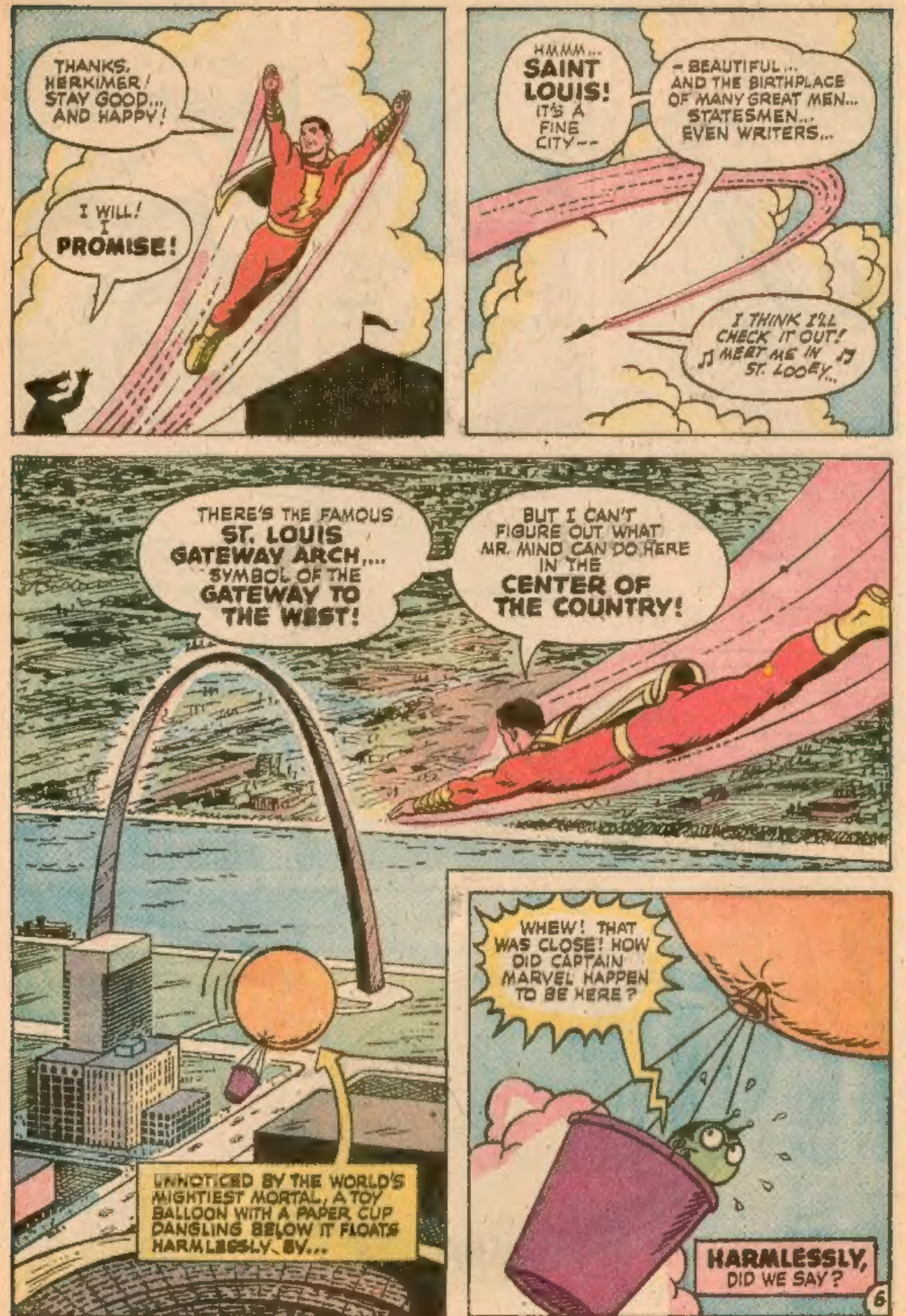
FWUNCH
IT'S A FREE COUNTRY, OR WAS, LAST TIME I LOOKED!
CHEAP... ROTTEN... MALLET!

I'LL USE MY TEETH!
GO YAWN AHEAD!
CRUNCH

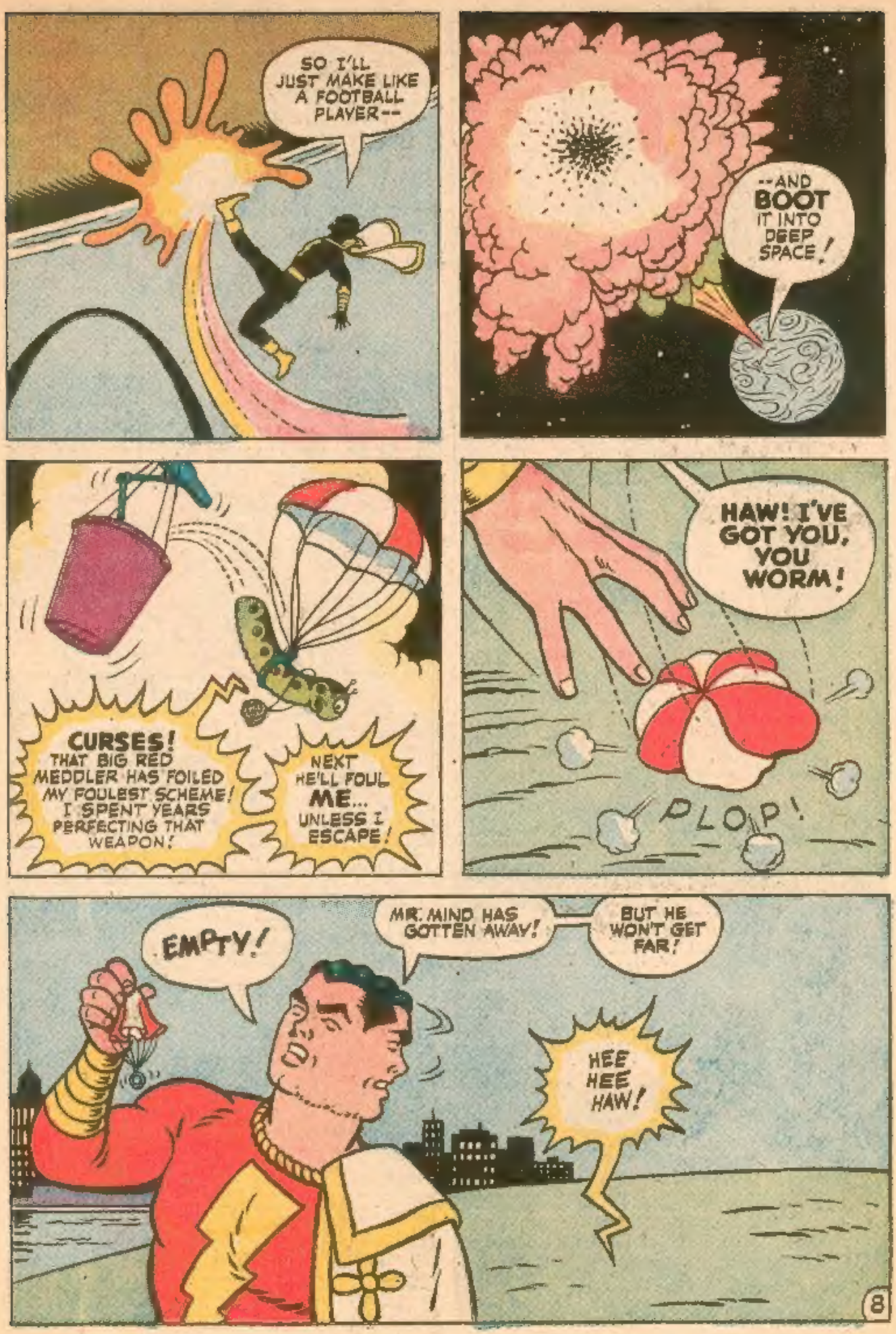
DON'T WORRY! I HEAR DENTISTS CAN DO WONDERS THESE DAYS!
ARE YOU READY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS?
UNGMH ...OKAY!

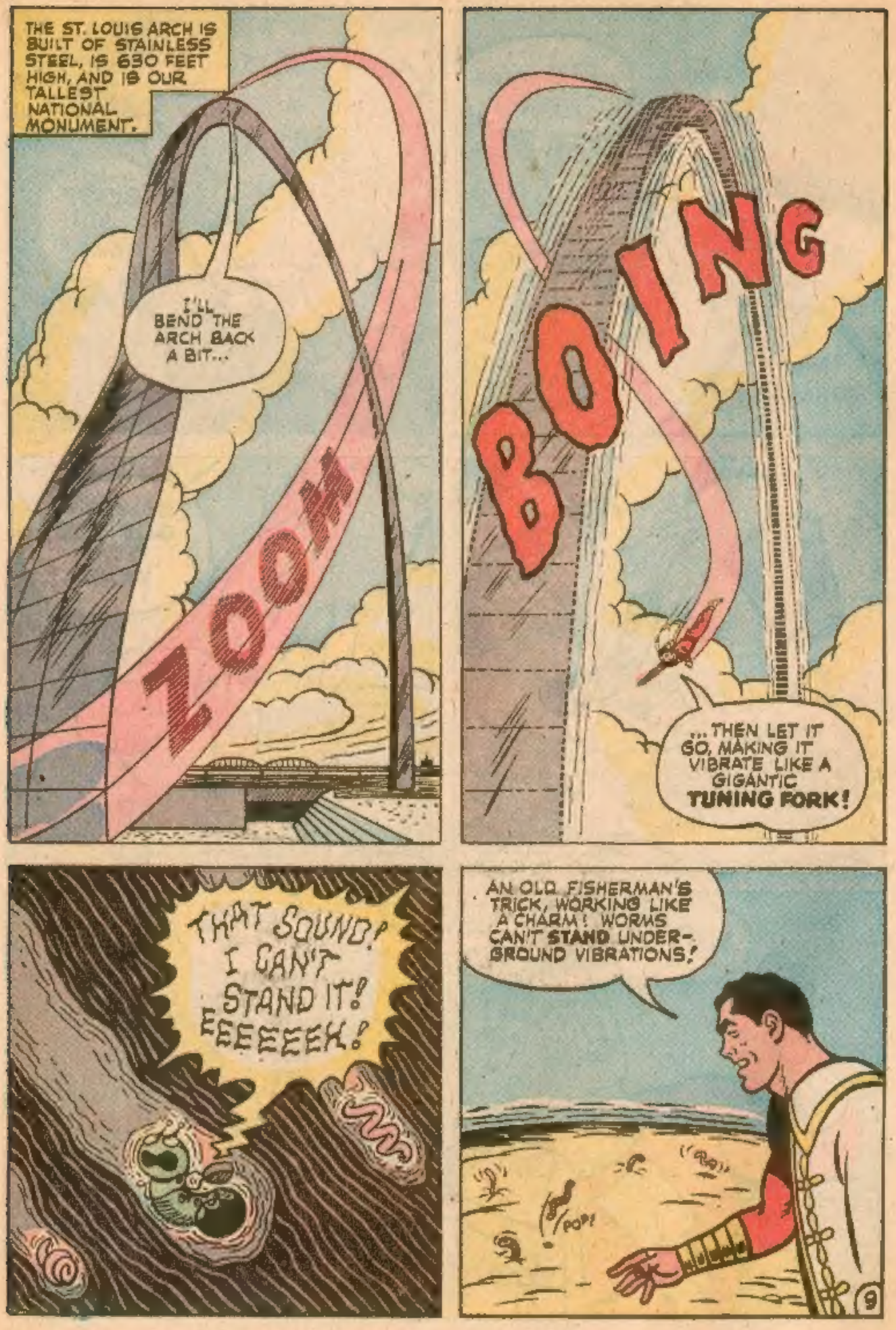

SORRY ABOUT THE ATTACK--
I MUST HAVE BEEN OUT OF MY MIND!
SPEAKING OF MINDS, HAVE YOU BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MR. MIND LATELY, HERKIMER?

FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK! HE WANTED ME TO MEET HIM IN ST. LOUIS-- BUT I REFUSED! MY CRIME CAREER IS FINISHED!
I'M HAPPY HERE WITH THE CIRCUS... I ALWAYS DID HAVE A LIKING FOR SHOW-BIZ!
5


THANKS, HERKIMER! STAY GOOD... AND HAPPY!
I WILL! I PROMISE!
HMMM... SAINT LOUIS! IT'S A FINE CITY--
- BEAUTIFUL... AND THE BIRTHPLACE OF MANY GREAT MEN... STATESMEN... EVEN WRITERS...
I THINK I'LL CHECK IT OUT! ♫ MEET ME IN ST. LOOEY... ♫
THERE'S THE FAMOUS ST. LOUIS GATEWAY ARCH,... SYMBOL OF THE GATEWAY TO THE WEST!
BUT I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT MR. MIND CAN DO HERE IN THE CENTER OF THE COUNTRY!
UNNOTICED BY THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL, A TOY BALLOON WITH A PAPER CUP DANGLING BELOW IT FLOATS HARMLESSLY BY...
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! HOW DID CAPTAIN MARVEL HAPPEN TO BE HERE?
HARMLESSLY, DID WE SAY?

NEVER MIND... I'LL LAUNCH MY ATOMIC EXPANDING MISSILE AS PLANNED!
CREAK
CLIP
WHEN IT REACHES CRITICAL SIZE IT WILL DESTROY EVERY-THING BETWEEN ST. LOUIS AND LOS ANGELES!
AND THAT SILLY ARCH WILL THEN BE THE GATEWAY TO NOTHING!
HO HA HEE!
SNORT!
CACKLE!
HOLY MOLEY! A SHELL OF SOME SORT... GROWING BIGGER BY THE SECOND... WHAT CAN IT BE?
IT LOOKS LIKE A MONSTROUS FOOTBALL WITH MR. MIND'S FACE ON IT!
7


SO I'LL JUST MAKE LIKE A FOOTBALL PLAYER--
--AND BOOT IT INTO DEEP SPACE!
CURSES! THAT BIG RED MEDDLER HAS FOILED MY FOULEST SCHEME! I SPENT YEARS PERFECTING THAT WEAPON!
NEXT HE'LL FOUL ME... UNLESS I ESCAPE!
HAW! I'VE GOT YOU, YOU WORM!
PLOP!
EMPTY!
MR. MIND HAS GOTTEN AWAY!
BUT HE WON'T GET FAR!
HEE HEE HAW!
8

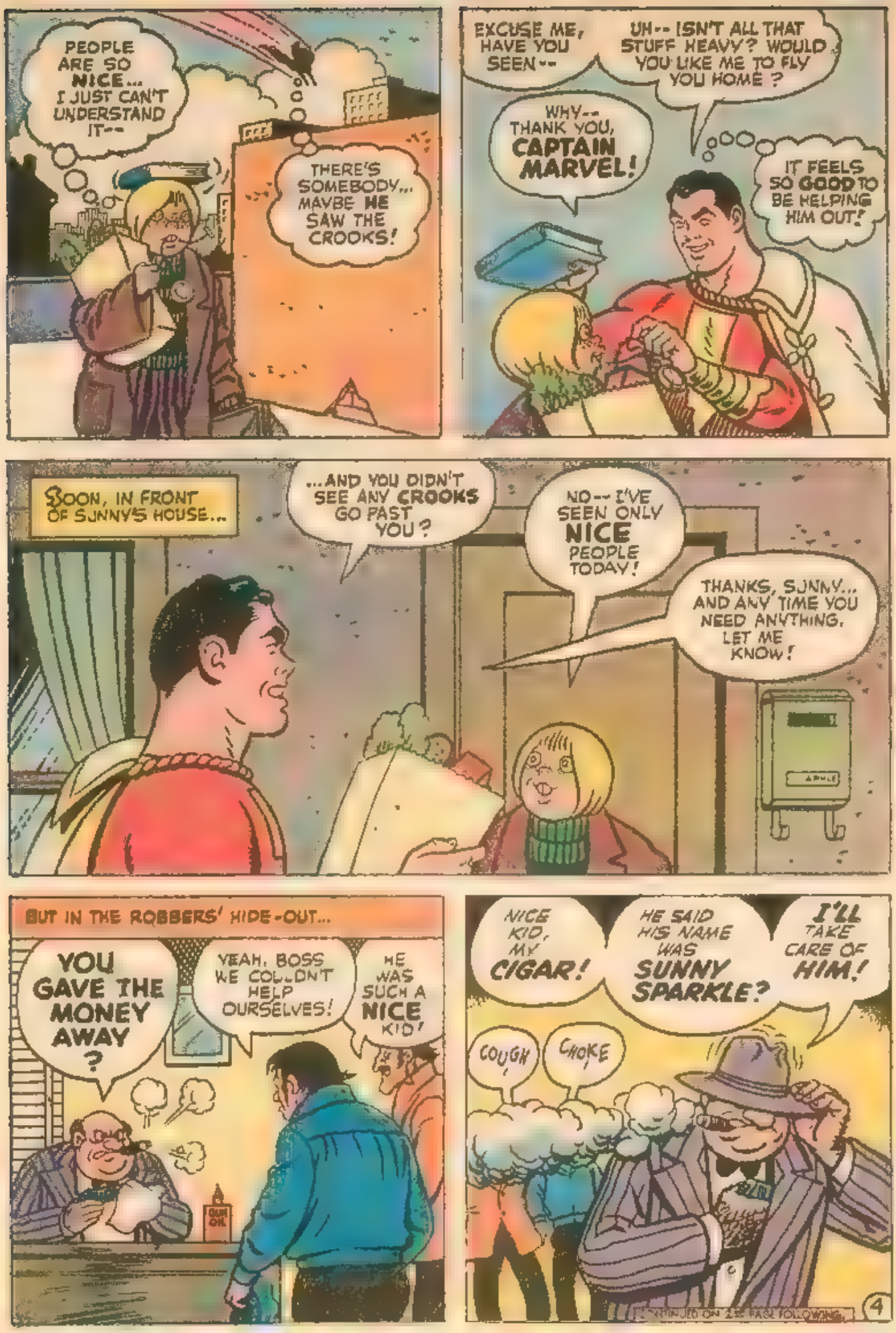

THE ST. LOUIS ARCH IS BUILT OF STAINLESS STEEL, IS 630 FEET HIGH, AND IS OUR TALLEST NATIONAL MONUMENT.
I'LL BEND THE ARCH BACK A BIT...
ZOOM
BOING
...THEN LET IT GO, MAKING IT VIBRATE LIKE A GIGANTIC TUNING FORK!
THAT SOUND! I CAN'T STAND IT! EEEEEEK!
AN OLD FISHERMAN'S TRICK, WORKING LIKE A CHARM! WORMS CAN'T STAND UNDER-GROUND VIBRATIONS!
POP!
9

THE GROUND IS COVERED WITH THE TINY CREATURES! MUST BE TRILLIONS OF THEM ..
THERE'S WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR THE GLINT OF SUN-LIGHT ON A PAIR OF TINY SPECTACLES!
!
WE MEET AGAIN MR. MIND!
BAH! THE PLEASURE'S ALL YOURS!
NEXT SAT-
MR MIND'S LOCKED UP INSIDE A SEALED MASON JAR AND IS INSIDE A PRISON CELL, THANKS TO CAPTAIN MARVEL MR. TAWNY!
THOSE TWENTY YEARS OF INACTIVITY CERTAINLY HAVEN'T CRAMPED THE GOOD CAPTAIN'S STYLE! HE'S RIGHT BACK ON THE JOB!
I WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME I'VE BEEN AWAY FOR SO LONG-- I WONDER IF STATION WHIZ STILL HAS A JOB FOR THE WORLD'S OLDEST BOY ANNOUNCER!
BY THE WAY, BILLY, DID CAPTAIN MARVEL EVER LEARN HOW MISTER MIND SURVIVED THE ELECTRIC CHAIR?
NOPE! MAYBE WE'LL NEVER KNOW!
OH, BUT YOU WILL, BILLY AND SOON! .. IN A FORTHCOMING ISSUE OF SHAZAM!
the End
10

SHAZAM!
HERE, SUNNY -- TAKE MY CAPE ... AS A SOUVENIR!
BUT, CAPTAIN MARVEL--
I INSIST-- I WANT YOU TO HAVE IT!
DID YOU EVER MEET SOMEBODY WHO WAS A REALLY NICE GUY? A REALLY, REALLY NICE GUY .. WHO ALWAYS MADE YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING -- ANYTHING -- NICE FOR HIM JUST BECAUSE HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY?
WELL, YOU'VE NEVER MET ANYONE QUITE LIKE SUNNY SPARKLE...
"THE NICEST GUY IN THE WORLD"
WRITER ELLIOT MAGGIN
ARTIST C.C. BECK
EDITOR JULIUS SCHWARTZ
S 1392
THIS IS SUNNY SPARKLE SNEAKING PAST A CROWD OF PEOPLE ON HIS WAY HOME...
AUTHOR RICHARD REVERE AUTOGRAPHS HIS LATEST BOOK "FROM HERE TO FOREVER"
BOOKE NOOKE
WHY, YOU ASK, DOES SUNNY HAVE TO SNEAK BY THEM? BECAUSE...
OH-- SON: COME OVER HERE.. I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU!
MY, WHAT A NICE BOY!
UH-OH!
BOOKE NOOKE
1

I'M SELLING THIS BOOK FOR $8.99.. BUT I WANT YOU TO HAVE ONE FREE!
IT'S GETTING CHILLY! TAKE MY COAT!
WHAT A SWEET BOY!
YOU NEED A WATCH
THANKS, EVERY-ONE!
YOU CAN'T BE SURE OF THE TIME WITH WJST ONE WATCH--TAKE M NE, TOO.
THANK YOU, BUT I REALLY DON'T NEED--
TAKE IT-- I INSIST!
PEOPLE JUST CAN'T EVER HELP DOING THINGS FOR SUNNY...
I TOOK THE WATCH! PEOPLE GET SO SAD WHEN I REFUSE WHAT THEY GIVE ME!
I'LL TAKE THIS STUFF HOME AND GIVE IT TO CHARITY AT THE END OF THE WEEK, LIKE I ALWAYS DO!
MEANWHILE, JUST A FEW BLOCKS AWAY...
BANK
GOT ALL THE CASH, LEFTY?
YEAH, LANKY! LET'S SCRAM!
HOLY MOLEY! BANK ROBBERS!
I'D BETTER CHANGE TO CAPTAIN MARVEL AND STOP THEM!
BEFORE BILLY CAN SAY THE MAGIC WORD...
OUTA THE WAY, KID!
YOU'RE HOLDIN' UP OUR GETAWAY!
GNNG
WITH THIS NEW SMOKE-GADGET THE BOSS PUT ON THE CAR, NOBODY'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW US!
NOT EVEN CAPTAIN MARVEL! HAW HAW!
ROARRRR
CAN LEFTY BE RIGHT? CAN HIS AND LANKY'S HANKY-PANKY TRICK STOP EVEN THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL? IF BILLY HADN'T BEEN KNOCKED OUT, WE'D SOON KNOW!
2

BUT BILLY HAS BEEN KNOCKED ONLY MOMENTARILY UNCONSCIOUS, AND...
SHAZAM!
CHOKE!
COUGH!
AS HE SPEAKS THE NAME OF THE OLD WIZARD, A BOLT OF MAGIC LIGHTNING COMES DOWN FROM THE SKY, CHANGING BILLY TO...
BOOM
..CAPTAIN MARVEL!
HOLY MOLEY! THIS SMOKE IS COVERING THE WHOLE AREA!
I CAN'T SEE A THING!*
COUGH! COUGH!
HOLY MOLEY
MEANWHILE, THE ROBBERS ARE GETTING AWAY!
*THE ORIGINAL CAPT. MARVEL HAS NO SUPER-VISION, REMEMBER!
CHUCKLING SMUGLY, THE BANK ROBBERS LEAVE FLOUNDERING CAPTAIN MARVEL FAR BEHIND, THEN, SUDDENLY...
LANKY! STOP THE CAR!
?
THAT NICE KID UP AHEAD [illegible] YOUR HELP!
CAN WE HELP YOU, KID? CAN WE GIVE YOU A LIFT WITH ALL THAT STUFF?
NO, THANK YOU.. I'M ALL RIGHT-- REALLY!
THEN TAKE THIS! YOU CAN USE IT BETTER THAN WE CAN!
HE'S A REALLY NICE KID, EH, LANKY?
ER--THANK YOU, SIR!
3


PEOPLE ARE SO NICE... I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT--
THERE'S SOMEBODY... MAYBE HE SAW THE CROOKS!
EXCUSE ME, HAVE YOU SEEN--
UH-- ISN'T ALL THAT STUFF HEAVY? WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO FLY YOU HOME?
WHY-- THANK YOU, CAPTAIN MARVEL!
IT FEELS SO GOOD TO BE HELPING HIM OUT!
SOON, IN FRONT OF SUNNY'S HOUSE...
...AND YOU DIDN'T SEE ANY CROOKS GO PAST YOU?
NO-- I'VE SEEN ONLY NICE PEOPLE TODAY!
THANKS, SUNNY... AND ANY TIME YOU NEED ANYTHING, LET ME KNOW!
BUT IN THE ROBBERS' HIDE-OUT...
YOU GAVE THE MONEY AWAY?
YEAH, BOSS WE COULDN'T HELP OURSELVES!
HE WAS SUCH A NICE KID!
NICE KID, MY CIGAR!
HE SAID HIS NAME WAS SUNNY SPARKLE?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
COUGH
CHOKE
CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING.
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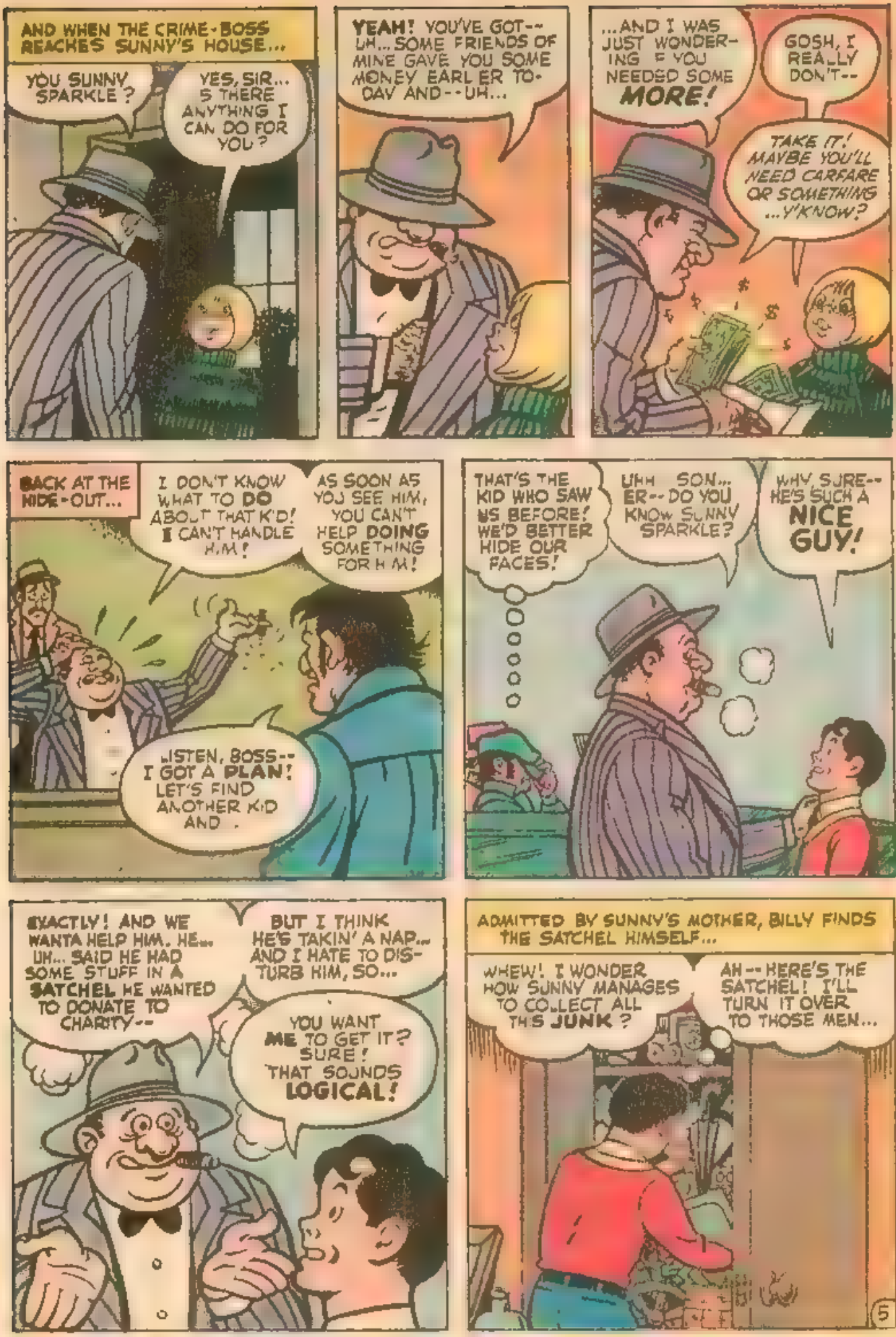
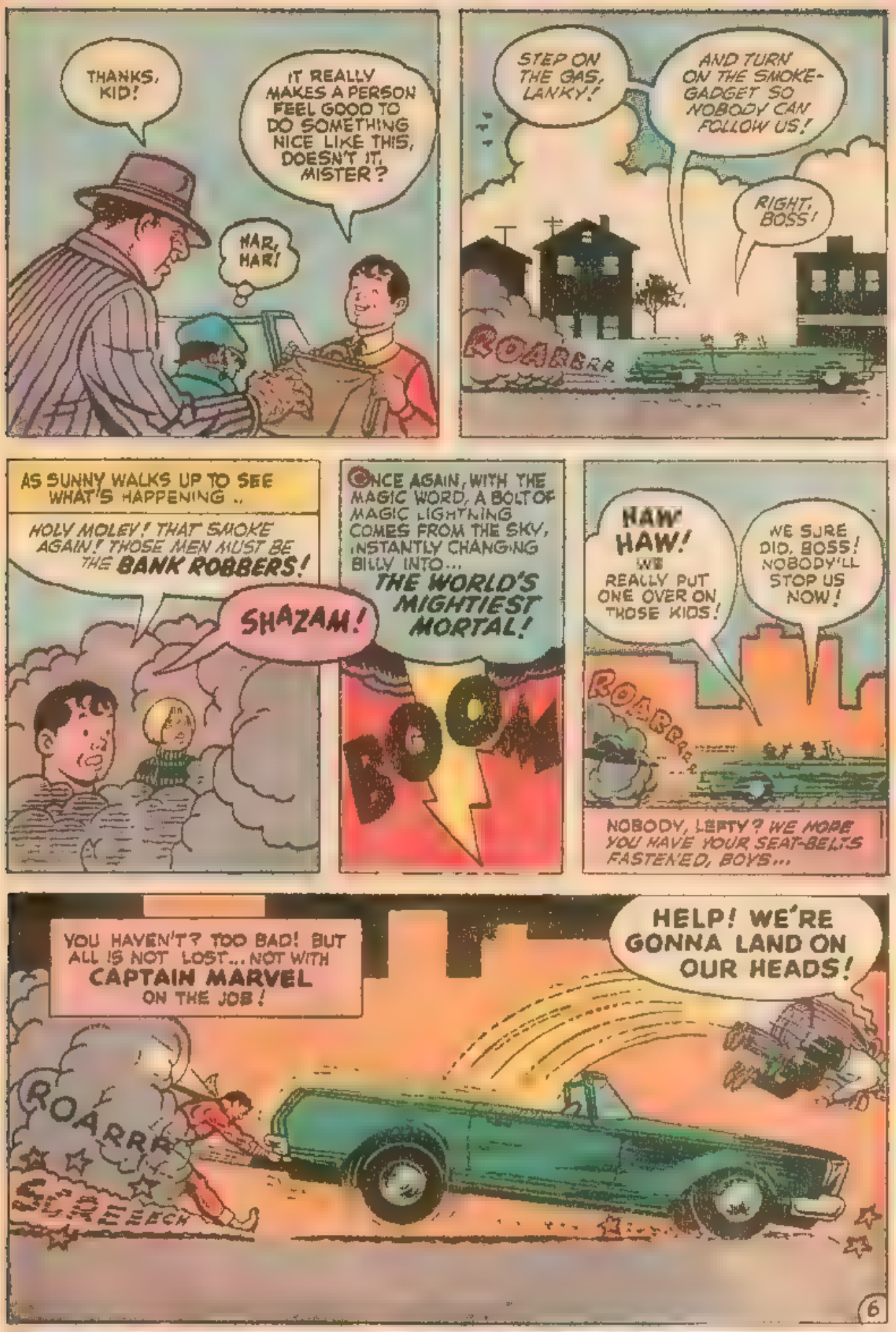
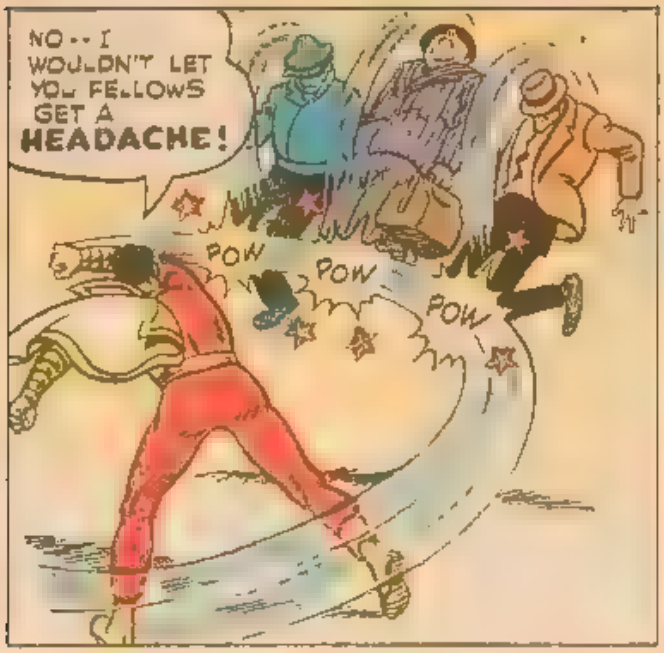
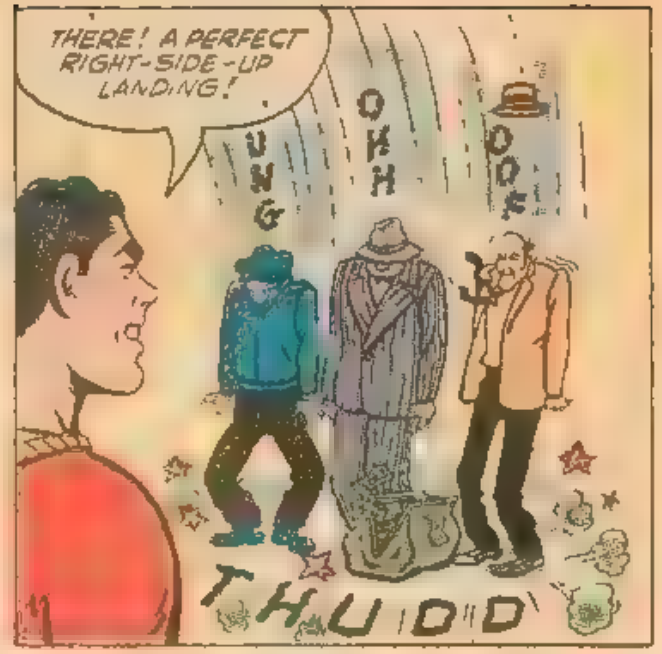
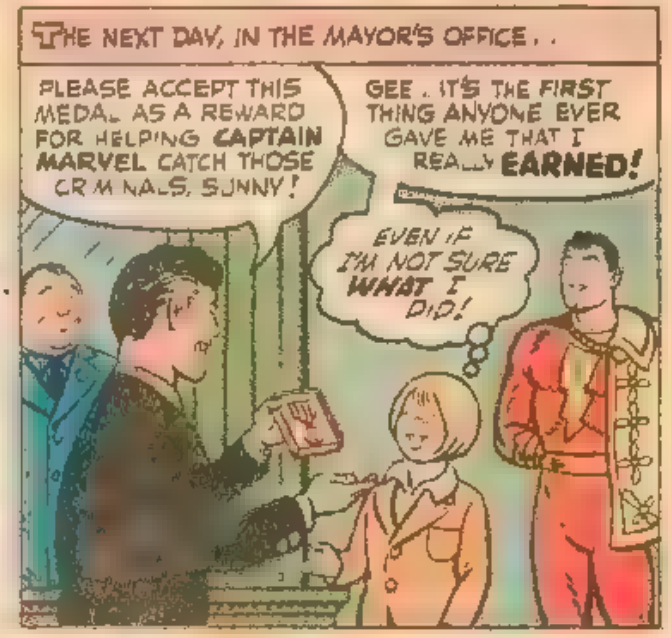

AND WHEN THE CRIME-BOSS REACHES SUNNY'S HOUSE...
YOU SUNNY SPARKLE?
YES, SIR... S THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?
YEAH! YOU'VE GOT-- UH... SOME FRIENDS OF MINE GAVE YOU SOME MONEY EARLIER TODAY AND--UH...
...AND I WAS JUST WONDERING IF YOU NEEDED SOME MORE!
GOSH, I REALLY DON'T--
TAKE IT! MAYBE YOU'LL NEED CARFARE OR SOMETHING ...Y'KNOW?
BACK AT THE HIDE-OUT...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT THAT K'D! I CAN'T HANDLE HIM!
AS SOON AS YOU SEE HIM, YOU CAN'T HELP DOING SOMETHING FOR HIM!
LISTEN, BOSS-- I GOT A PLAN! LET'S FIND ANOTHER KID AND .
THAT'S THE KID WHO SAW US BEFORE! WE'D BETTER HIDE OUR FACES!
UHH SON... ER-- DO YOU KNOW SUNNY SPARKLE?
WHY, SURE-- HE'S SUCH A NICE GUY!
EXACTLY! AND WE WANTA HELP HIM. HE... UH... SAID HE HAD SOME STUFF IN A SATCHEL HE WANTED TO DONATE TO CHARITY--
BUT I THINK HE'S TAKIN' A NAP... AND I HATE TO DISTURB HIM, SO...
YOU WANT ME TO GET IT? SURE! THAT SOUNDS LOGICAL!
ADMITTED BY SUNNY'S MOTHER, BILLY FINDS THE SATCHEL HIMSELF...
WHEW! I WONDER HOW SUNNY MANAGES TO COLLECT ALL THIS JUNK?
AH-- HERE'S THE SATCHEL! I'LL TURN IT OVER TO THOSE MEN...
5

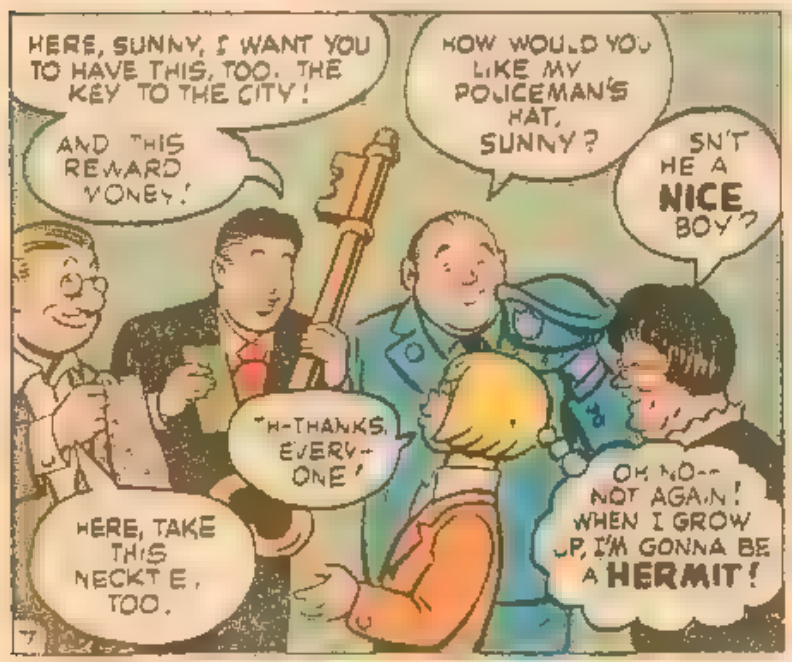

THANKS, KID!
IT REALLY MAKES A PERSON FEEL GOOD TO DO SOMETHING NICE LIKE THIS, DOESN'T IT, MISTER?
HAR, HAR!
STEP ON THE GAS, LANKY!
AND TURN ON THE SMOKE-GADGET SO NOBODY CAN FOLLOW US!
RIGHT, BOSS!
ROARRR
AS SUNNY WALKS UP TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING ..
HOLY MOLEY! THAT SMOKE AGAIN! THOSE MEN MUST BE THE BANK ROBBERS!
SHAZAM!
ONCE AGAIN, WITH THE MAGIC WORD, A BOLT OF MAGIC LIGHTNING COMES FROM THE SKY, INSTANTLY CHANGING BILLY INTO...
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
BOOM
HAW HAW! WE REALLY PUT ONE OVER ON THOSE KIDS!
WE SURE DID, BOSS! NOBODY'LL STOP US NOW!
ROARRR
NOBODY, LEFTY? WE MORE YOU HAVE YOUR SEAT-BELTS FASTENED, BOYS...
YOU HAVEN'T? TOO BAD! BUT ALL IS NOT LOST... NOT WITH CAPTAIN MARVEL ON THE JOB!
HELP! WE'RE GONNA LAND ON OUR HEADS!
ROARRR
SCREEECH
6

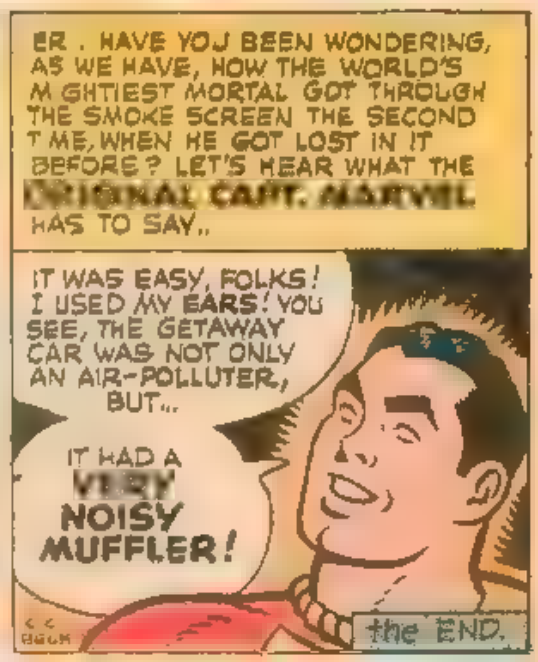

NO -- I WOULDN'T LET YOU FELLOWS GET A HEADACHE!
POW
POW
POW


THERE! A PERFECT RIGHT-SIDE-UP LANDING!
UNG
OKH
OOF
THUDD

BUT IF THEY WANT TO FALL OVER ONCE THEY'RE ON THEIR FEET, IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS!
EH, SUNNY?
GHAAAA


THE NEXT DAY, IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE..
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS MEDAL AS A REWARD FOR HELPING CAPTAIN MARVEL CATCH THOSE CRIMINALS, SUNNY!
GEE. IT'S THE FIRST THING ANYONE EVER GAVE ME THAT I REALLY EARNED!
EVEN IF I'M NOT SURE WHAT I DID!


HERE, SUNNY, I WANT YOU TO HAVE THIS, TOO. THE KEY TO THE CITY!
AND THIS REWARD MONEY!
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE MY POLICEMAN'S HAT, SUNNY?
ISN'T HE A NICE BOY?
TH-THANKS, EVERY-ONE!
HERE, TAKE THIS NECKTIE, TOO.
OH, NO-- NOT AGAIN! WHEN I GROW UP, I'M GONNA BE A HERMIT!
7


ER. HAVE YOU BEEN WONDERING, AS WE HAVE, HOW THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL GOT THROUGH THE SMOKE SCREEN THE SECOND TIME, WHEN HE GOT LOST IN IT BEFORE? LET'S HEAR WHAT THE ORIGINAL CAPT. MARVEL HAS TO SAY..
IT WAS EASY, FOLKS! I USED MY EARS! YOU SEE, THE GETAWAY CAR WAS NOT ONLY AN AIR-POLLUTER, BUT...
IT HAD A VERY NOISY MUFFLER!
the END.

SHAZAM and FAMILY

S 1458

Last issue we told you something of the origin of the **original Captain Marvel.** This time, we'd like to take up the rest of the **Marvel Family.**

The first additions came in **Whiz Comics** #21 (Sept. 1941). Three boys came to see boy newscaster **Billy Batson**—and each of them was also named **Billy Batson.** There was **Tall Billy,** from out west, **Fat Billy,** from Brooklyn, and **Hill Billy,** from the south.

Some of **Captain Marvel's** enemies, told by **Sivana** to capture **Billy Batson,** abducted the wrong ones. However, **Sivana,** the **World's Wickedest Scientist,** used the other three to lure the right **Billy** into a trap. Tied to a log, all four were being sent through a sawmill to their deaths; but **Billy** managed to get his gag sliced off by the saw. Unfortunately, the sawmill's sound drowned out his magic word, so he got the other **Billys** to shout it with him—and all four were transformed into **Marvels.** Thus the **Three Lieutenant Marvels—Tall Marvel, Fat Marvel** and **Hill Marvel**—were created. However, they only appeared in a handful of stories over the years.

The next addition—and a big one—came in **Whiz #25. Captain Nazi,** a super-powered agent of Hitler, was knocked by **Captain Marvel** from a plane to the bay. A boy and his grandfather pulled him into their boat, but the Nazi villain had only contempt for such soft-heartedness. He knocked both out of the boat and stole it. The old man was killed and the boy **Freddy Freeman,** was rushed by **Captain Marvel** to the hospital. Changing to **Billy,** the hero waited until he heard that **Freddy** was dying. Then **Billy** slipped into his room and carried him to the secret tunnel where he could summon the spirit of **Shazam.**

However, the old wizard said he could not change something which had already come to pass. The only chance **Freddy** had was for **Billy** to pass on to him some of his **Shazam** powers. "**Billy Batson,** speak my name!" said the ancient wizard. "**Shazam!**" **Billy** cried, and as the magic lightning flashed, turning the lad into the **World's Mightiest Mortal, Shazam's** spirit vanished. **Freddy** awoke and exclaimed, "Why, it—it's **Captain Marvel!**" Again the lightning struck, changing **Freddy** into a mighty blue-clad boy—**Captain Marvel, Junior!** He was active for many years, in **Master Comics** and his own magazine, as well as with **Cap** and **Mary** in **Marvel Family.**

And speaking of **Mary**—she came along in **Captain Marvel Adventures** #18 (Dec., 1942). While moderating a quiz show for bright young people, **Billy** was called away to the bedside of a dying woman—his old nurse. She revealed that he had a twin sister, but since they were orphaned in infancy, she had substituted **Mary Batson** for a girl baby which had died, thereby assuring her of a good home. The old woman died after giving **Billy** one slender clue—his sister wore the other half of a broken locket she gave him.

It was only after the show was over that **Billy** realized one of the contestants, **Mary Bromfield,** had been wearing a broken locket. **Freddy Freeman,** who had also been on the show, was interested in the story. He and **Billy** changed to **Cap** and **Junior** to follow **Mary**—and found she had been kidnaped. They kayoed the crooks, then checked **Mary's** locket. The fit was perfect. The two heroes then changed to **Billy** and **Freddy,** to let her in on their secret. That's when the crooks recovered and struck, seizing the boys. "**Billy! Freddy!** Say your magic words!" **Mary** cried. "Oh, they can't . . . they're gagged! **Billy** can't say **Shazam!**"

–Boom! And **Mary Batson** became **Mary Marvel,** the **World's Mightiest Girl!** After cleaning up the crooks, she went with the other two **Marvels** to see **Shazam,** who revealed that her powers came from six different characters from those who gave **Billy** and **Freddy** their powers. **Mary's** all-female line-up included: **Selena—Grace; Hippolyta—Strength; Ariadne—Skill, Zephyrus—Fleetness, Aurora—Beauty;** and **Minerva—Wisdom.**

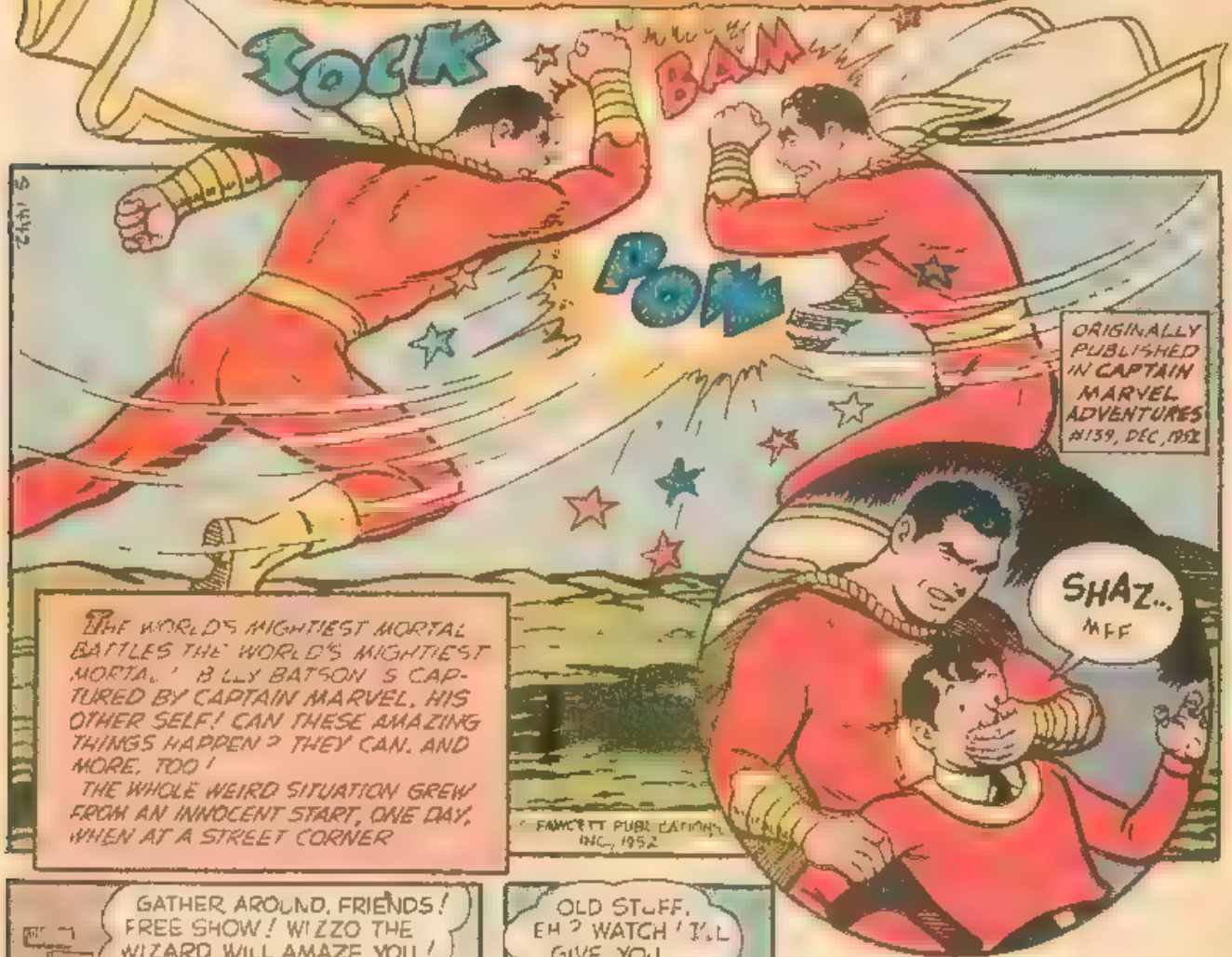
Obviously there was a good deal of work done to get goddesses who would fit into the **SHAZAM** letters—but the result seems far from satisfactory. **Zephyrus** was the Greek **god** of the **West Wind**—and always represented as male. There is no one to give **Mary** her invulnerability. And how do beauty and grace rate as super-powers? We are considering a switch in about half her powers, what do you readers think?

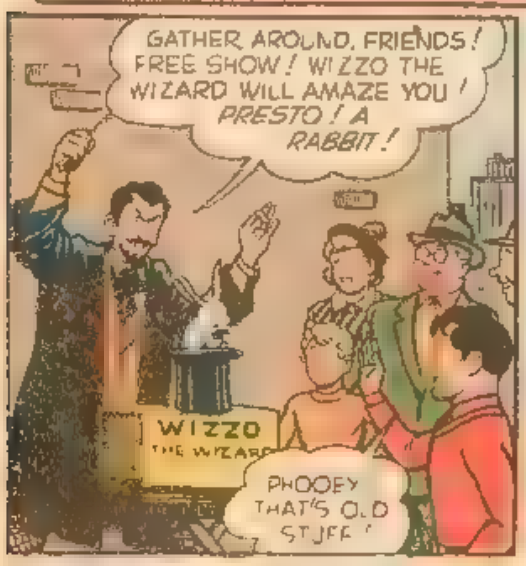
We have one more **Marvel** to consider: **Uncle Marvel.** His story began when he appeared at the home where **Mary** lived with her foster-mother, **Mrs. Bromfield.** He claimed to be **Mary's Uncle Dudley.** And when the two said, "**Shazam!**", he changed into **Uncle Marvel.** However, **Mary** was surprised when her new-found uncle took rewards for their deeds. He even formed a new company, **Shazam, Inc.** And when he said the name of the outfit and didn't change, **Mary** realized he was a fraud. But he had a good heart, and soon established **Shazam, Inc.** as a charitable, non-profit organization. It turned out that he had slipped off his outer clothes under cover of **Mary's** lightning flash, to reveal a home-made costume. And **Mary** had really done all the super-deeds. He had found her good deed book, which she had lost—and which told of her double identity.

The Marvel Family teamed up regularly in a magazine with that title (first issue dated December, 1945). **Cap, Mary** and **Junior** were in all 89 issues. **Uncle Marvel** was around in many of the early issues, and the **Three Lieutenant Marvels** showed up in #2. **The Marvel Family** was the last magazine to carry the adventures of the three. Ironically, the final issue, dated January 1954, featured on the cover the title "And Then There Were None!" But, as you can tell, the **Marvels** are back.

SHAZAM!

PRESENTS A GOLDEN AGE CLASSIC IN WHICH THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL FIGHTS NIATPAC LEVRAM!


SOCK
BAM
POW
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN CAPTAIN MARVEL ADVENTURES #139, DEC., 1952
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL BATTLES THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL! BILLY BATSON IS CAPTURED BY CAPTAIN MARVEL, HIS OTHER SELF! CAN THESE AMAZING THINGS HAPPEN? THEY CAN, AND MORE, TOO!
THE WHOLE WEIRD SITUATION GREW FROM AN INNOCENT START, ONE DAY, WHEN AT A STREET CORNER
SHAZ... MFF
FAWCETT PUBLICATIONS INC., 1952



EVEN THE TAME LITTLE RABBIT, IN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS, CAN BECOME A HAZARD, AS BILLY BATSON QUICKLY FINDS OUT!
EEPERS!
SHAZAM!
WHENEVER HE IS IN TROUBLE BILLY SHOUTS THE MAGIC WORD WHICH ECHOES WITH A CRASH OF MAGIC LIGHTNING, AND...
BOOM
MIGHTY CAPTAIN MARVEL, THE WORLD'S GREATEST HERO APPEARS IN HIS PLACE!
GOLLY! CAPTAIN MARVEL! WE SURE NEED YOU.
HOLY MOLEY
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA WIZZO?
AHA THE GREAT CAPTAIN MARVEL FOR YOUR INFORMATION I CREATED THE HORDE OF RABBITS JUST TO BRING YOU ON THE SCENE!
YOU WANT ME? WHY?
NEVER MIND WHY HERE HOLD MY HAT!
OMIGOSH! HOW DO YOU STOP THIS THING?
PRESTO!
ABRA-CADABRA!
HOLY MOLEY WHAT CAN I DO?
FINALLY, CAPTAIN MARVEL HIT BY A STROKE OF SHEER GENIUS
THAT'S USING MY HEAD!
CLOD
I'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO WITH THE MAGIC HAT LATER! NOW I'LL SHOO THESE BUNNIES OUT INTO THE COUNTRY!
BUT WHY DID WIZZO DO THIS? WHAT'S HE UP TO?
2

LURKING NEARBY, WIZZO THE WIZARD CARRIES ON ANOTHER STEP OF A SINISTER AND MYSTERIOUS PLAN!
AH! THERE'S CAPTAIN MARVEL'S MIRROR IMAGE!
NOW PRESTO! IMAGE EMERGE!
WEIRDLY, ACTUATED BY THE WIZARD'S BLACK MAGIC, THE MIRROR IMAGE STEPS FORTH!
AHA! THE DUPLICATE OF CAPTAIN MARVEL!
OLLEH!
OLLEH? OH YES, YOU MEAN HELLO! YOU SPEAK BACKWARDS, BEING A MIRROR IMAGE! ALSO, YOU ARE LEFT HANDED! SHAKE, CAPTAIN MARVEL!
I MA NIATPAC LEVRAM!
ALL RIGHT, HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY---NIATPAC LEVRAM! BUT YOU MUST OBEY ME, SINCE YOU HAVE NO MIND OF YOUR OWN! FLY ME AWAY NOW!
SEY, RIS!
THE EVIL WIZARD CARRIES ON HIS ENIGMATIC PROJECT WITH THE MIRROR IMAGE OF CAPTAIN MARVEL!
YAKO!
SMASH THAT WATER TOWER, LEVRAM!
YAKO---CROAK---IS RIGHT! KEEP ON DESTROYING STUFF, LEVRAM, LOTS OF IT!
CRASH
UPROOT ALL THESE TREES, LEVRAM! WE'LL LEAVE THIS PARK IN A BIG MESS!
RIP
3

LATER, AT STATION WHIZ, AS BILLY SEES THE TELETYPE NEWS FLASH...
A TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION LEFT THROUGH THE CITY BY CAPTAIN MARVEL? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!
SHAZAM!
TICK TICK
AGAIN MAGIC LIGHTNING BRINGS CAPTAIN MARVEL...
BOOM
...ALSO THE MAGIC HAT!
HEY, DON'T TELL ME I'M STILL WEARING THAT HAT?
YIPES! WHERE'S MY REFLECTION? WAIT, WIZZO THE WIZARD... NOW I SEE!
WHATEVER HE'S UP TO, HE CERTAINLY ISN'T VERY QUIET ABOUT IT!
CRASH
GREETINGS, CAPTAIN MARVEL! MEET YOUR MIRROR IMAGE!
I THOUGHT SO! BUT I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, WIZZO!
BANG BANG BANG
WILL YOU? BUT NIATPAC LEVRAM IS MY BODYGUARD NOW! FIGHT HIM, LEVRAM!
HOLY MOLEY!
BONK!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
4

A TITANIC BATTLE TAKES PLACE BETWEEN THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MAN AND THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST IMAGE!
HAAA! HE'S YOUR EQUAL, CAPTAIN MARVEL! HOW CAN YOU DEFEAT HIM?
BAM
BOOM
WHIP
SOCK

THAT'S ENOUGH, LEVRAM! WE CAN ESCAPE NOW! THE MAGIC HAT WILL KEEP HIM BUSY!
UG!
BAM

OH, NO! NOT THIS AGAIN!

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THIS DOGGONE THING EXCEPT WEAR IT! NOW TO FOLLOW WIZZO SECRETLY!

LATER, AT A HIDDEN CAVE...
SCHOOL FOR WIZARDS? GUESS BILLY HAD BETTER SPY AROUND INSIDE!
SCHOOL FOR BLACK MAGICIANS
SHAZAM!

BOOM

SOON, INSIDE, BILLY OVERHEARS A STRANGE REPORT!
BEHOLD! I CREATED THE MIRROR IMAGE OF CAPTAIN MARVEL AND CAUSED DESTRUCTION! DO I GET MY DIPLOMA NOW, SIR?

YES, WIZZO! FOR YOUR GREAT EVIL DEED, I PROMOTE YOU FROM APPRENTICE TO MASTER MAGICIAN!
HOLY MOLEY! SO THAT'S IT! WIZZO NEEDED THE IMAGE
OOPS!
CLUNK!
5

BETRAYED BY HIS UNLUCKY MOVE, BILLY IS GRABBED BY CAPTAIN MARVEL'S OWN IMAGE!
SHAZ... MF!
?
TIE AND GAG THE BRAT, LEVRAM!
SOON THE BOY IS A HELPLESS CAPTIVE!
SPYING, EH? YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE! PRESTO! BECOME A HIDEOUS MONSTER!
HAH! LOOK AT YOURSELF NOW, BRAT!
UGG! BUT WAIT... THESE BIG TEETH TORE MY GAG LOOSE!
SHAZAM!
ONCE MORE, MAGIC LIGHTNING BRINGS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
BOOM
AND AT LAST CAPTAIN MARVEL FINDS A GOOD USE FOR THE MAGIC HAT!
GREETINGS, WIZZO! HAVE A FEW OF YOUR OWN RABBITS!
YAAA! MY WAND!
I'VE GOT IT! PRESTO —: STOP! THIS WAND IS THE ANSWER TO GETTING RID OF MY MIRROR IMAGE, TOO!
PRESTO! BACK IN YOU GO, YOU RENEGADE FROM MIRRORLAND!
EYBDOOG!
YOU AND YOUR TEACHERS WILL GO TO JAIL NOW! WHEW! AM I GLAD MY MIRROR IMAGE IS BACK WHERE IT BELONGS!
THE END.
6
NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT MAR. 15TH

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